

THIRD

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF MANAGERS

OF THE

MASSACHUSETTS COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

PRESENTED, MAY 29, 1844.

~~~~~  
SECOND EDITION.  
~~~~~

BOSTON:

PRESS OF T. R. MARVIN, 21 CONGRESS ST.

1844.

OFFICERS.

PRESIDENT.

REV. EBENEZER BURGESS, D. D.

VICE PRESIDENTS.

REV. LEONARD WOODS, D. D.

REV. E. S. GANNETT, D. D.

HON. SIMON GREENLEAF.

R. A. CHAPMAN, Esq.

REV. WILLIAM M. ROGERS.

SECRETARY AND GENERAL AGENT.

REV. JOSEPH TRACY.

TREASURER.

ELIPHALET KIMBALL, Esq.

AUDITOR.

JOHN H. PRAY, Esq.

MANAGERS.

REV. GEORGE W. BLAGDEN.

REV. WILLIAM HAGUE.

REV. B. B. EDWARDS.

DR. J. V. C. SMITH.

HENRY EDWARDS, Esq.

ALBERT FEARING, Esq.

T. R. MARVIN, Esq.

JAMES HAYWARD, Esq.

CAPT. BENJAMIN WHIPPLE.

267961

Remittances may be made to the Treasurer, at No. 83 Milk Street, or to the Secretary, at the office of the Society, No. 26 Joy's Building.

R E P O R T .

IN presenting our Third Annual Report, we are still obliged to speak of difficulties, obstructions and discouragements. All our arrangements for a travelling agency have been disappointed. The Rev. James T. Phelps, who entered the field a few days before our last annual meeting, was compelled to discontinue his labors, by ill health, in one week. From feeble health and other causes, the Rev. Dr. Tenney has been able to extend his labors but a few miles from his residence. Capt. George Barker, after rendering us some assistance while making collections for the African Repository, visited the State of New York, as general agent for that publication, intending soon to return and engage in our service ; but as the New York State Colonization Society was then destitute of Secretary or Agent of any kind, he was obliged to take charge of its concerns, and to remain in its service almost to the present time.

Our facilities for communicating with the public through the press, have been somewhat diminished by the transfer of the Boston Recorder to new hands. Its present conductors think it inconsistent with their intended course in relation to slavery, to admit into their columns any thing, even an official statement of undeniable and unquestioned facts, in favor of Colonization. Hence we have found it impracticable to inform such of our friends as depend on that paper for information, of some very urgent claims upon their benevolence.

Attempts to muzzle the press, both religious and secular, have also been made in other quarters, and with some degree of success. Editors have been called to account by their subscribers and threatened with loss of patronage, for not suppressing information ; and in one instance in the interior of the State, the suppression of articles in our favor, and the insertion of articles of an opposite character, was procured by secretly bribing an assistant editor, who, however, lost his place on the discovery of the fact by the proprietor. In short, it is

evidently the settled policy of those who oppose us, to procure, by intimidation or otherwise, the exclusion of facts favorable to our cause from the public journals.

Yet we have made some progress. The amount received by the Parent Society from Massachusetts, acknowledged in the African Repository during twelve months ending just before our last annual meeting, was \$1,225 67. The amount thus acknowledged since the last annual meeting is \$1,755 82; to which should be added \$74 25 expended here but not yet reported, making a total of \$1,830 07; showing an increase of \$604 40, or more than 49 per cent. To this add \$440 20 collected here, but not remitted, and the amount is \$2,270 27. The receipts for the African Repository have been \$393 25; so that the whole amount received by the Parent Society from within the State, from all sources, has been \$2,223 32, and the whole amount raised in the State, \$2,663 52. Besides this, the Charlestown Colonization Society last winter procured subscriptions to an amount not known, but probably from \$150 to \$250, the collection of which, for certain local reasons, has been judiciously delayed; and other subscriptions are known to have been in progress.

In former years, the foreign business of the Parent Society has almost wholly been conducted through southern ports. During the year now ending, it has been found advantageous to transact some of it in this city. Insurance has been effected on shipments from this and other ports, supplies for the Colony and goods for the Colonial store have been purchased, a ship for conveying emigrants and stores has been chartered, and other business transacted, to the amount of seven or eight thousand dollars. This, we hope, will have a good effect upon public sentiment, by exhibiting the Society and its Colony as active realities, worthy of the attention of business men. The direct pecuniary advantage to the Society, from these transactions, is not yet exactly ascertained. It cannot, however, be less than \$1,000. In the transaction of this business, your office in this city has been found convenient.

Previously to the last annual meeting, an appeal had been made in favor of eighteen persons, formerly slaves of Thomas Wallace, Esq. of Flemingsburgh, Ky., to whom freedom had been bequeathed, on condition of their emigrating to Liberia within one year. Of the sums remitted to the Parent Society, \$589 75 was contributed either expressly for their benefit, or for the benefit of persons in their condition. After several delays by lawsuits, instituted for the purpose of retaining them in slavery, fourteen of them sailed from New Orleans in the brig Lime Rock, on the tenth of April last, and, we hope, are now in Liberia. Of the remaining four, one is dead, one has married and cannot leave

her husband, and two have had the privilege of living in Kentucky as freemen, purchased for them by persons who, for some reason, were unwilling to spare them from the neighborhood.

The Lime Rock also took out the last detachment of those who were formerly slaves of the late Mrs. Reed, of Mississippi. Their case is worthy of special notice.

Her father, Capt. Isaac Ross, died some years since, having bequeathed his slaves, upwards of three hundred in number, and a large amount of other property, to the American Colonization Society. The slaves and other property were then estimated at more than \$300,000. Suits at law were instituted for the purpose of setting aside the will, and means have been found to protract the litigation even to the present time. It is believed, however, that the freedom of these people will ultimately be secured, and that perhaps enough of the estate will be left to defray, on an economical scale, the expense of their emigration. His daughter, it was well known, deeply sympathized with his views on that subject; but she seems to have been discouraged from making a similar will in her own case, by the difficulty found in executing that of her father. With the exception of a small legacy to a friend, she bequeathed her whole estate, consisting of her slaves and 1,600 acres of land, to Dr. Stephen Duncan, of Natchez, and the Rev. Zebulon Butler, of Port Gibson, who were appointed her executors. The legacy was not in trust, nor encumbered with any conditions, written or verbal. The legatees might have sold the land and slaves, put the money in their own pockets, and been at peace with all but God and their own consciences. They, however, determined to do what they believed to be most agreeable to the wishes of Mrs. Reed, and for the best good of the slaves. Within three months from her decease, Dr. Duncan advanced \$2,500 to the Colonization Society, towards the expense of their outfit. But just before they were ready to sail, all proceedings were staid by an injunction. This was followed up by every kind of proceeding before courts of law and chancery, and before the legislature, which the ingenuity of lawyers could invent; so that several years were consumed, and not less than \$20,000 of Mrs. Reed's estate was spent, in securing the freedom of her people. At last, Dr. Duncan advancing \$1,500 more of his own funds for that purpose, 71 of them embarked in the *Renown*, at New Orleans, on the 9th of May of last year. Others, who joined them at New Orleans and at Norfolk, raised the number to 79, all of whom have been safely landed at Monrovia. On the 10th of last month, the remaining 72 sailed from New Orleans in the *Lime Rock*. They were accompanied by the fourteen from Flemingsburgh, before mentioned, and six from New Orleans, making 92 emigrants in all.

The whole number sent out during the year is 175. Of these, 143 were from the estate of Mrs. Reed, and 21 others were slaves, who thus became free; making in all, 164 slaves emancipated during the year.

Another expedition is about to sail from Norfolk, in the ship *Virginia*, chartered here, and expected to leave this port to-morrow. She will carry out about 50 emigrants. Of these, one is a free colored man from Newark, Ohio, and another from Philadelphia. The others are slaves, emancipated for emigration. Eighteen are from St. Charles, Mo.; and the remainder from various parts of Virginia. Sixteen of them, from Richmond, have been detained ten or twelve years by lawsuits, instituted for the purpose of retaining them in slavery. One, from Augusta County, bought his freedom with the avails of his own labor. He then came to Washington, where he begged the money to purchase his wife; the officers of the Colonization Society heading the subscription from their own private resources. There are many others in Virginia and elsewhere, who ought to be sent out by this expedition, and who would be sent, but for want of funds. Among them, are ten slaves of a minister of the gospel, who states that he finds his present relation to them inconsistent with his own highest interests and those of his sacred office. Emigration to Liberia he considers necessary to their best good, which he feels bound to consult. They are of good character, and, though content with their present condition, they are desirous of joining their relatives, who are already settled and doing well in Liberia. His own means, he finds, are insufficient to meet the expense of their emigration. He has therefore applied to the Society for aid; but its funds have not yet enabled it to grant his request.

The receipts of the Parent Society, for the year 1843, were \$32,191 61; being greater than those of the previous year, by \$6,193 51. Its debt has been reduced upwards of \$4,000. Its pecuniary credit seems to be well established in all our principal commercial cities. No reason appears for apprehending an adverse change of public sentiment. Its auxiliaries in the great States of New York and Pennsylvania have, it is believed, nearly extricated themselves from the liabilities incurred while acting independently. The New York Society, too, after a year of unavoidable inefficiency since the death of the Rev. Dr. Proudfit, has at length completed its organization by the appointment of an able, zealous and popular Secretary. A great increase of means may therefore be expected from these auxiliaries during the present year.

In respect to the Colony, we are at length relieved from the necessity of relying upon estimates and conjectures. A census has been taken, which, when printed, will give very full and definite information on nearly all important points. At present, we can state only a few of

the results. It should be remembered that this census relates only to the Colony of Liberia proper, and does not include the Maryland Colony at Cape Palmas. Almost every one's first question will relate to Population and Health.

The emigrants received up to September, 1843, were 4,454. The deaths of emigrants during their first year have varied, from less than 9 to nearly 50 per cent. These deaths are found to bear no relation to the healthiness of the year; being often the greatest when the deaths among older colonists are fewest, and the contrary. But they do bear a very evident relation to the character and demeanor of the emigrants, the supply of medical attendance, the season of the year in which they arrive, and other similar circumstances. During the five most favorable years, the average mortality of new emigrants was 9.79 per cent. After suitable deduction for the ordinary rate of mortality among others, there is a remainder of from 4 to $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, which may fairly be ascribed to the process of acclimation, conducted with such prudence as it is reasonable to require, in the present circumstances of the Colony. The whole number who have died within a year from their arrival, has been 996; being 22.36 per cent.

The mortality among acclimated colonists is by no means alarming, when compared with that among the same class of persons in this country.

The average mortality of all the inhabitants of Boston for the last seven years, taking the census of 1840 as the average number of inhabitants, has been 2.16 per cent. Among the white population in Baltimore, from 1823 to 1826 inclusive, it was 2.23 per cent; in New York, 2.49; in Philadelphia, 3.19. Among the colored people, in Baltimore, for the same years, it was 3.10; in Philadelphia, 5.02; in New York, 5.29; and in Boston it is supposed by well informed persons to be about 6.66. The average annual mortality among acclimated Colonists in Liberia, for the last twelve years, has been 4.20; and for the last three years, 3.07. The greatest mortality among them except in 1822, during a time of war, was 6.94 in 1828. Since that time, it has never risen so high as 6.00 but once, and never so high as 5.00, when there was a regularly educated physician in the Colony.

It appears, therefore, that the climate of Liberia is more favorable to the health and longevity of acclimated persons of color, than that of Boston, New York or Philadelphia; and even including the dangers of acclimation to a person not censurably imprudent, a colored emigrant from the south is more likely to live three years in Liberia than in Boston; more likely to live four years than in New York, and five years than in Philadelphia.

Of the earlier emigrants, many removed to the British Colony at

Sierra Leone. On the planting of the Colony at Cape Palmas, many, originally from Maryland, removed thither, and joined their fortunes with the neighbors and friends of their childhood. Others have returned to this country, or gone to other settlements. The removal of more than 500 is recorded, of whom a large majority are residing in some part of Africa. Of the present number of members of their families, we have no account.

The number of emigrants and their children, residing within the jurisdiction of the Colony at the close of 1843, was 2,463, of whom 645 had been born in Africa.

To these should be added about 300 of the natives, who have become so civilized as to be admitted to the polls, and to all the privileges of citizenship. These, with their families, will probably raise the whole colonial population to nearly 4,000.

Of the natives residing on land owned by the Colony, and directly amenable to its laws, no census has been taken. They are estimated at from 10,000 to 15,000. They rely wholly on the Colony for protection from the kidnapping tribes of the interior, and in case of a war of sufficient magnitude to demand their aid—which, however, is a very improbable event—they might all be embodied for its defence. Of the population of the allied tribes, who are bound by treaty to abstain from the slave trade and some other barbarous customs, and to refer their difficulties to the Colonial Government for settlement without bloodshed, still less is known. According to the boasts of their chiefs, it is at least 120,000, and may not improbably exceed half that number.

The churches in the Colony are 23. The communicants, emigrants and their children, 1,014; recaptured Africans, 116; native, 353.

There are 16 schools, containing 562 scholars, of whom 192 are of the native population.

The convictions, from the first planting of the Colony, not among the Colonists merely, but among the whole population directly amenable to the courts, have been, for murder, 9; kidnapping, 11; burglary, 17; grand larceny, 107; petty larceny, 184; other crimes, 47.

The valuation of private property, which is said to be much below its true market value, amounts to \$120,075, or \$50 24 to each inhabitant, or about \$250 to a family of five. Of this amount, \$21,775 is employed in agriculture, and \$99,300 in commerce. There are in the Colony 21,197 coffee trees, and 54 acres of sugar cane. At the port of Monrovia, during the three months ending March 30, 1844, the imports amounted to \$16,524 17; the exports to \$13,058 87. The amount at each of the three other ports of entry was supposed to be nearly the same; but the official returns have not yet been received.

Of the moral and intellectual character of the Colony, something may be inferred from the fact, that about half of the Colonists are communicants in the several churches, and more than one fourth are at school.

Of its missionary influence, against which so much has been said, we may judge from the fact, that there are 353 native communicants, converts from the grossest heathenism. The Ceylon mission of the American Board, which was commenced four years before the Colony, and has been regarded by intelligent men as the model mission of Protestantism, had, in communion with its seven churches, at the latest date before the last annual meeting of the Board, 340 native members;—just 13 less than the 23 churches in Liberia.

The beneficial influence of the Colony on the surrounding tribes continues to increase. Since our last meeting, intelligence has been received of the treaty formed in February, 1843, with the Golahs. Yando, the head king of the Golahs, resides 100 or 200 miles up the St. Paul's river, and professes to have 50,000 subjects, which is doubtless a great exaggeration. The Golahs, like all the allied tribes, agree to abolish the slave trade and several idolatrous and barbarous usages, and to make no war without the consent of the Colonial government.

In November last, with the countenance of Commodore Perry, of the U. S. squadron, an important treaty was made with the Kroos, by which they bind themselves to abstain from all participation, direct or indirect, in the slave trade, and "that no foreign officer, agent or subject, except the Colony of Liberia or the American Colonization Society, shall purchase, have, or in any way, by sale, lease or gift, obtain, any right to or claim upon the Kroo country." The Kroomen are well known to all acquainted with Western Africa, as the watermen of that coast. Few vessels, public or private, can dispense with their assistance. The policy of the tribe has restrained them from engaging directly in the slave trade; but they have always been ready to assist slavers in getting slaves on board. The loss of their aid will subject the slave traders to very serious inconvenience. Their country possesses some important commercial advantages, and foreigners have shown special anxiety to secure some foot hold within its limits.

A part of the Little Bassa territory, extending ten miles along the sea coast and fourteen miles inland, has been purchased for \$300; and the remaining fifteen miles is offered for \$600. This would give us the whole line of coast from the St. Paul's river to the St. John's; a distance of about eighty miles.

The political relations of the Colony are highly gratifying.

The difficulties experienced in former years with British traders have led to correspondence between the governments of Great Britain and

the United States, in which the political independence of Liberia is distinctly claimed by the latter, and virtually admitted by the former, and instructions have been given to the British naval commanders on that coast, to govern themselves accordingly.

The French government has not yet perfected its title to Garroway, and there is some reason to hope that the intention is abandoned.

It is understood that the rendezvous of the American squadron on the coast of Africa, which was at first unfortunately located at the Cape Verde Islands, has been removed to Monrovia. This will do much to increase both the business and the respectability of the Colony. Hitherto, the intercourse of the officers of the squadron with the Colonial government has been most gratifying to all parties; and their testimony in favor of the Colony, which has been for some time before the public, is exerting a happy influence.

Here it may not be improper to mention some services rendered by the squadron to the general interests of colonization and missions beyond our limits.

On coming to anchor at Cape Palmas, on the 6th of December, Commodore Perry found the Maryland Colony threatened with war by the native tribes in the vicinity; and an application was immediately made to him, to rescue the Rev. Mr. Payne, Protestant Episcopal missionary at Cavally, and his family, from impending danger. Cavally is nearly twenty miles east of Cape Palmas, and within the territory purchased by the Maryland Colonization Society, but still occupied by the natives. A station had been established there, in the belief that missions on that coast do not need colonial protection. The danger from the natives had, however, become so imminent, that Mr. Payne had already sent to Cape Palmas for deliverance, when the *Decatur* hove in sight, and soon opened a communication with him. The next morning, Capt. Abbott landed with an armed force, as Mr. Payne had advised, escorted the mission family to the shore, and conveyed them safely to Cape Palmas. Through the influence of Commodore Perry, peace was soon restored between the natives and the Colony. Still, for several weeks Mr. Payne did not think it safe to trust himself and family at Cavally, and was apprehensive that the station must be permanently given up. At the latest dates, however, matters seemed nearly arranged for his return. Facts have not yet shown the possibility of sustaining a mission any where on that coast, without Colonial protection. In some other parts of Africa, it may be more practicable; though even that is yet a matter of hope, rather than experience.

With Colonial protection, however, missions can be extended indefinitely. Among the allied tribes of Liberia, they are believed to be

perfectly safe. Even among the Golahs, 100 miles or more in the interior, two stations have lately been established, with the approbation of the chiefs and people, and every prospect of safety and success.

After stating such facts, we need spend no time in an appeal for support. The facts themselves are a sufficient appeal to the intelligent friends of freedom, civilization and Christianity.

NOTE.

Among the slaves waiting for the aid of the Society to emigrate to Liberia, were sixty-eight, of excellent character, belonging to Mr. Brown, near Nashville, Tenn., who was anxious to see them on their way during his life, as he believed that his heir, a nephew, would find means to defeat any will that might be made in their favor. Since the presentation of this report, the Secretary has received information that Mr. Brown is dead, and the slaves have passed into the hands of his heir, who has removed them to a more southern State; so that their liberation is now hopeless. Those who have withheld, or induced others to withhold, from the Colonization Society, the funds necessary to meet the expense of their emigration, are morally responsible for their continuance in slavery. There have been several other cases of a similar character within a few years; and unless prompt and liberal remittances prevent, such cases must continue to occur.

NOTE TO THE SECOND EDITION.

Mr. Joseph H. Wilson, of Wilsonville, Shelby Co., Ky., offers to emancipate twenty-seven slaves for emigration to Liberia. They are of good character, all over twelve years of age can read, and several have trades. Among them are members of the Presbyterian, Baptist and Methodist churches. Mr. Wilson might sell them for TWELVE THOUSAND DOLLARS; but he proposes to give them their freedom, and 1,000 or 1,200 dollars besides, to commence business with in Liberia; so that his donation will amount, in all, to \$13,000 or more. The expense of their emigration, to be contributed by the friends of freedom, will be about \$1,350; that is, about one tenth as much as Mr. Wilson offers to give.—There are also two ministers of the gospel in Virginia, who wish thus to emancipate their slaves, nine or ten each.—The Secretary of the Parent Society wrote, August 29:—"Yesterday I had an urgent application to send out thirty more slaves from Virginia. A few days ago, I had one to send some fifteen or twenty from Havre de Grace."—Here are at least EIGHTY SLAVES waiting for FIFTY DOLLARS each, to secure their freedom.—"Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them."

Sept. 10, 1844.

APPENDIX.

No. I.

ABSTRACT OF THE CENSUS OF LIBERIA, SEPT. 1843.

	Arrivals.	Deaths the first year.	Deaths of former colonists.	Sum of both.	Emigrants of each yr. now in the colony.	Emigrants of each yr. who have removed.	Total emigrant population.	Children of each year now in the colony.	Total population.	Mortality among acclimated colonists.
1820,	86	15		15	8	35	36		36	per cent.
1821,	33	4	3	7	6	8	54		54	8.39
1822,	37	7	7	14	9	5	72	3	75	12.96
1823,	65	13	2	15	15	8	114	6	120	2.60
1824,	103	16	5	21	34	8	188	3	200	4.16
1825,	66	13	8	21	16	3	230	6	248	4.00
1826,	182	40	8	48	58	6	358	3	379	3.22
1827,	234	20	9	29	63	14	549	6	576	2.37
1828,	301	97	40	137	98	24	699	12	638	6.94
1829,	147	37	30	67	49	25	754	20	813	4.70
1830,	326	75	35	110	123	25	945	20	1,024	4.30
1831,	165	32	51	83	71	12	1,008	30	1,117	4.98
1832,	655	92	37	129	289	83	1,451	13	1,573	3.31
1833,	639	170	47	217	193	122	1,751	44	1,917	2.98
1834,	237	70	70	140	87	31	1,817	33	2,016	3.65
1835,	183	17	66	83	96	32	1,885	48	2,132	3.27
1836,	209	51	94	145	105	13	1,936	47	2,230	4.40
1837,	76	37	104	141	30	6	1,865	58	2,217	4.66
1838,	205	50	135	185	102	12	1,873	56	2,281	6.08
1839,	56	6	129	135	35	10	1,784	55	2,247	5.65
1840,	115	52	128	180	33	6	1,713	40	2,216	5.69
1841,	86	21	79	100	45	9	1,690	78	2,271	3.56
1842,	229	25	66	91	169	15	1,813	35	2,429	2.90
1843,	19	6	79	85	11	2	1,745	29	2,390	4.33
Total,	4,454	966		2,198	1,745	514		645		

Churches, 23; Communicants, American, 1,014, Recaptured Africans, 116, African, 353; Total, 1,483.

Schools, 16; Scholars, American, 370, African, 192; Total, 562.

Convictions—Murder, 9; Kidnapping, 11; Burglary, 17; Grand Larceny, 107; Petit Larceny, 184; Other offences, 47.

Imports in two years, \$157,829; Exports, do. \$123,694; Stock in trade, \$58,750; Real estate of merchants, \$39,550; Commission business annually, \$50,500; Vessels, 9.

Coffee trees, 21,197; Acres Sugar cane, 54; Acres in Rice, 62; Do. Indian corn, 105; Do. Ground nuts, 31; Do. Potatoes and Yams, 306; Do. Cassada, 326. Acres owned, 2,534; Under cultivation, 948. Cattle, 71; Sheep and Goats, 214; Swine, 285; Ducks and Hens, 119 doz.; Total value owned by farmers, \$21,775.

No. II.

LETTER FROM DR. LUGENBEEL, COLONIAL PHYSICIAN, TO THE SECRETARY.

Monrovia, Liberia, West Africa, April 11, 1844.

REV. AND DEAR SIR:—Being assured that you feel interested in every thing relative to the colony of Liberia, I have thought that a letter from this distant land may not prove unacceptable. I arrived in Liberia about the middle of November last; since which time, I have been actively engaged in the practice of my profession, nearly every day. My health has generally been remarkably good. For more than four months I continued to perform my duties, with no other interruption than an occasional attack of fever and headache, which did not compel me to keep my bed for a single day. On the 23d of March, however, I experienced an attack of fever, and was confined to bed for a week. At present I feel very well.

The colony never was perhaps in a more flourishing condition than at this time. Indeed, this place (Monrovia) is becoming a considerable commercial depot. Vessels of the various European nations, engaged in trading on this coast, as well as American merchantmen, almost always stop at this place, and frequently consign large portions of their cargoes to our commission merchants; and, in return, receive canwood, palm oil, ivory, &c. The exportations from this port, during the last year, amounted to upwards of \$100,000. About two months ago, a neat and substantial cutter, of about twenty tons, was launched in our harbor; and another, of about the same size, is now on the stocks. There are in all about twelve vessels, (one of ninety tons,) owned by different persons in the colony, and engaged in trading along the coast. Several stone and frame buildings are now in progress of erection in this town; and the new court-house is nearly finished. This is a fine large stone building, two and a half stories high. The lower floor is the court-room; the second story the legislative hall; and the half story is divided into several rooms, for various uses. A new stone jail is also in process of building. The court-house cost upwards of four thousand dollars; and it has been paid for by the people.

In regard to agricultural pursuits, however, there seems to be a want of energy on the part of the colonists. They are generally too fond of trading—want to get rich too fast. Many of them seem to forget that the soil is the true source of wealth and comfort; they seem to forget that they live on one of the most productive soils in the world; and that in order to maintain themselves as a free people, and to have a permanent home, they must cultivate the soil. All the usual productions of tropical climates thrive well in Liberia. The coffee-tree and the sugar-cane grow as luxuriantly here, as perhaps in any other part of the world. Several persons have turned their attention to the cultivation of coffee; and, in a few years, no doubt, this will be a profitable article of exportation. The coffee-tree grows much larger here than in the West Indies. It is not uncommon for a single tree to yield, at one time, fifteen pounds of coffee; and I understand that as much as eighteen pounds have been gathered from one tree. In making sugar, the colonists have not yet been very successful, owing to the want of the necessary apparatus. Horses and oxen do not live well in Liberia; and the sugar mill or press has to be turned by manual force. The employment of so many hands is necessarily very expensive; and consequently the sugar costs more, than it can be procured for from merchant vessels. Until they can obtain a good steam apparatus, (which I hope they soon will) they cannot make sugar as cheaply, as it can be bought. About five thousand pounds of clear fine white sugar were made at the colonial farm this season: but the cost of labor was so great, that it will be a losing business.

The other settlements are in a flourishing condition. I have visited those on the St. Paul's river. In ascending this noble stream, many neat little houses may be seen scattered along its banks, surrounded by cleared lots or small farms, on which may be seen a variety of fruit trees and vegetables. The St. Paul's is one of the most beautiful streams of water I ever saw. It is about half a mile wide at the widest point, and about three eighths of a mile wide at Millshurg. The banks rise from ten to twenty feet above the water, and they are covered (except in places that have been cleared) with large forest trees; among which, the graceful palm, with its delicate tapering body, rears aloft its green tufted head, and stands in pride, the benefactor and the glory of its native land.

The Legislature of the Commonwealth of Liberia adjourned on the 20th ultimo, after a session of fourteen days. There were ten members. They met, for the first time, in the new hall. No unprejudiced individual could have attended the meetings of this body, and listened to their deliberations, without being convinced that the citizens of Liberia are capable of self-government.

Notwithstanding all the efforts that have been made, and that are still being made, to suppress the slave-trade, that nefarious traffic is still carried on, to an amazing extent, on this coast; not however within the territory of the Colony. There are several slave factories on the Gallinas river; and one at New Cesters, between this place and Cape Palmas. A few weeks ago a slave ship left the Gallinas, having on board *one thousand* slaves. However incredible it may appear, it is nevertheless the fact, that one thousand human beings were crowded, like inanimate substances, into the hold of a single vessel, to be carried across the broad Atlantic. No doubt, at least one fourth of these unfortunate creatures will find a watery grave, before the vessel shall have reached its place of destination. This ship was pursued by a British cruiser, but without success. Hundreds of thousands of the poor degraded children of Africa are annually torn from their native soil, from their own beautiful country, and transported to distant lands, the miserable victims of the most abominable traffic that has ever swelled the catalogue of human crime. An American vessel, supposed to be engaged in the slave trade, was captured by the commander of the United States' brig Porpoise, off the Gallinas river, a few weeks ago, and sent to the United States, for a judicial investigation. Although no slaves were found on board, yet the circumstantial evidence was sufficiently strong, to justify the commander of the Porpoise, in seizing her as a prize.

The health of the colonists is generally good, at present.

Yours truly,

J. W. LUGENBEEL, *Colonial Physician.*

REV. JOSEPH TRACY.

No. III.

LETTER FROM COMMODORE PERRY, COMMANDING THE U. S. SQUADRON ON THE WEST COAST OF AFRICA, TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.

U. S. Frigate Macedonian, Monrovia, West Coast of Africa, Jan. 4, 1844.

SIR:—It may be expected that I should communicate to the Department some information in regard to the settlements established by the Colonization Societies of the United States upon this coast.

I shall, therefore, undertake to notice in general terms their condition.

Having had an agency while serving many years ago on this station as First Lieutenant of the United States ship "Cyane," in the selection of Cape Mesurado as a suitable place of settlement for the colonists, I first saw this beautiful promontory when its dense forests were only inhabited by

wild beasts; since then I have visited it thrice, and each time have noticed with infinite satisfaction, its progressive improvement.

The Cape has now upon its summit a growing town, having several churches, a missionary establishment, school-house, a building for the meeting of the courts, printing presses, warehouses, shops, &c. In fact it possesses most of the conveniences of a small seaport town in the United States; and it is not unusual to see at anchor in its capacious road, on the same day, one or more vessels of war and two or three merchant vessels.

Hitherto my visits to this place have been necessarily of so short duration as not to allow of any examination of the interior portions of the settlement, and I can only judge of the state of cultivation of the soil from what I have seen in the vicinity of the town. But I am told that the agricultural prospects of the colony are brightening.

It appears to me, however, that the settlers are much more inclined to commerce and small trade than to agricultural pursuits, and this is the universal propensity of the colored people at all the settlements upon the coast of whatever nation. In this occupation a few of the more fortunate and prudent of the American settlers have acquired comparative wealth, whilst others have barely succeeded in securing a decent support.

But it is gratifying to witness the comforts that most of these people have gathered about them; many of them are familiar with luxuries which were unknown to the early settlers of North America. Want would seem to be a stranger among them; if any do suffer, it must be the consequence of their own idleness.

At Cape Palmas I had an opportunity of seeing the small farms or clearings of the colonists; these exhibited the fruit of considerable labor, and were gradually assuming the appearance of well cultivated fields. The roads throughout this settlement are excellent, surprisingly so when we consider the recent establishment of the Colony, and the limited means of the settlers.

At all the settlements the established laws are faithfully administered, the morals of the people are good, and the houses of religion are well attended; in truth the settlers, as a community, appear to be strongly imbued with religious feelings.

Governor Roberts, of Liberia, and Russwurm, of Cape Palmas, are intelligent and estimable men, executing their responsible functions with wisdom and dignity, and we have, in the example of those gentlemen, irrefragable proof of the capability of colored people to govern themselves.

On the whole, sir, I cannot but think most favorably of those settlements. The experiment of establishing the free colored people of the United States upon this coast has succeeded beyond the expectations of many of the warmest friends of colonization, and I may venture to predict that the descendants of the present settlers are destined to become an intelligent and thriving people.

The climate of Western Africa, in respect to its influence upon the constitution of the colored *settler*, should not be considered *insalubrious*; all must undergo the acclimating fever, but since the establishment of comfortable buildings for the reception of the new comers, and the greater amount of care and attention that can be bestowed upon them during their sickness, the proportional number of deaths has been very much decreased. Once through this ordeal of sickness, and the settler finds a climate and temperature congenial to his constitution and habits. But it is not so with the white man; to him a sojourn of a few years is almost certain death; and it would seem that the Almighty had interdicted this part of Africa to the white race, and had reserved it for some great and all-wise purpose of His own infinite goodness.

So far as the influence of the colonists has extended, it has been exerted to suppress the slave trade, and their endeavors in this respect have been eminently successful; and it is by planting these settlements (whether

American or European) along the whole extent of coasts, from Cape Verd to Benguela, that the exportation of slaves will be most effectually prevented.

The establishment of these settlements would have a certain tendency to civilize the natives in their immediate vicinity by introducing among them schools, the mechanic arts and in greater abundance those comforts with which they have recently become more generally acquainted, and to secure which they are disposed to make greater efforts to provide articles of African produce to exchange for them.

Thus the commerce of the country, already considerable, would be increased, and new fields would be opened to the labors of the missionary.

It is, therefore, very much to be desired that these settlements should be multiplied and sustained by the fostering care of Congress and the Government.

I have the honor to be, &c.

M. C. PERRY.

HON. DAVID HENSHAW.

No. IV.

CENSUS OF THE MARYLAND COLONY AT CAPE PALMAS.

[From the Maryland Colonization Journal for 1843.]

We have received from Governor Russwurm the annual census of our colony for the present year, of which the following is a summary:

COLONISTS.					
Males, over 21 years of age,	.	.	.	.	132
“ over 10 “ “	.	.	.	.	68
“ under 10 “ “	.	.	.	.	95—295
Females, over 18 years of age,	.	.	.	.	162
“ over 10 “ “	.	.	.	.	70
“ under 10 “ “	.	.	.	.	97—329
Total,					624

Missionaries and assistants within our territory, 20.

Here, then, we have the whole number of the colonists now in Maryland in Liberia, viz: 624

And from this let us subtract the whole number that have been sent there from the foundation of the colony, in February, 1834, to the present time, taken from records now before us, viz: 578

Leaving a natural increase of 46

It may be remarked that there have been other acquisitions to the colony besides emigrants from Maryland, particularly those who went from Monrovia and Bassa in the brig Ann, at the settlement of the colony. But we think this number is fully equalled by those who have left the colony. There are, for instance, now residing in this city, three who have returned home. Luke Walter and his whole family, eleven in all, returned almost immediately after their arrival in the colony. Some are also in other colonies along the coast, changing their residence, as might be expected in a free country. The conclusion is but fair, that, independent of immigration, we have a regular increase, although a small one, over all deaths from acclimation, casualties and accidents—a remarkable circumstance in the settlement of any new country, and we believe unprecedented in the tropical world.

The whole number of deaths the past year have been 19, amongst these, 3 white missionaries and 2 from casualty—exclusive of these there have been but 14, while the number of births for the same period has been 22, making a net increase of 8 the past year. Let these facts speak for the salubrity of the colony of Cape Palmas!